

News for Immediate Release November 18, 2004

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DWR Offers Prop 40 Urban Stream Restoration Grants

SACRAMENTO – The Department of Water Resources (DWR) announces the availability of approximately \$4.6 million in Proposition 40 grant money for Urban Stream Restoration Projects. The deadline for submitting applications for funding is 4 p.m. on January 25, 2005.

Through the Urban Streams Restoration Program (USRP), DWR provides grants to local communities for multi-objective projects that reduce flooding and bank erosion, improve the environmental values of streams and promote community stewardship.

USRP requires co-sponsorship on all projects by a local agency and local community group. Types of projects funded in past years include: creek cleanups, invasive vegetation control, revegetation and bioengineering bank stabilization projects. Others are reconfiguration of channels to improve geomorphic function, daylighting of culverted streams, acquisitions of floodplain land, and removal of flood prone structures. The grant cap is currently \$1 million per project, with the average grant size totaling \$350,000.

Grants for such restoration projects have been offered since the mid 1980's, when funds were first made available. Since the passage of Proposition 13 in 2000, USRP has provided approximately \$21 million in grants for 63 projects statewide. The current application cycle is a one time offering of Proposition 40 funding. No additional grant funds have been identified for USRP at this time.

For more information see <u>www.watershedrestoration.water.ca.gov/urbanstreams/</u> or call Sara Denzler at (916) 651-9625.

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

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